



Each reference listed herein may be accompanied by an explanation of its relevance.

While this explanation is believed to generally reflect the contents of the references which the undersigned believes a reasonable examiner might consider relevant and material to the examination of the above-identified patent application, it is not intended that the examiner rely on the description as unfailingly accurate or complete. A copy of each reference is enclosed for

the express purpose of providing the examiner with an opportunity to perform an independent evaluation to arrive at an independent assessment of its relevance and materiality, if any, to the claimed subject matter.

Cited Art

Copy of International Search Report from Corresponding PCT Application

Kitamura, et al., U.S. Patent 6,188,871, Filed Dec. 18, 1996, Patent Issued Feb. 13, 2001.

Humpleman, U.S. Patent 6,188,397 B1, Filed Apr. 30, 1998, Patent Issued Feb. 13, 2001.

Huber, U.S. Patent 5,659,351, Filed Dec. 30, 1994, Patent Issued Aug. 19, 1997.

Shibata, et al., U.S. Publication 2001/0018772 A1, Publication Date Aug. 30, 2001.

De Haas, U.S. Patent 6,408,436 B1, Filed Mar. 18, 1999, Patent Issued Jun. 18, 2002.

Watson, Jr., U.S. Patent 6,453,473 B1, Filed Sep. 15, 1998, Patent Issued Sep. 17, 2002.

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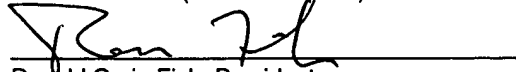
Dated: April 21, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

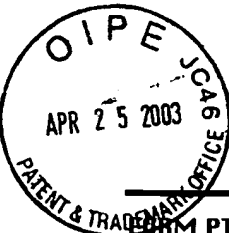


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| FORM PTO-1449<br>(Rev. 2-32)                     |  | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |  | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>TER-015 |  | SERIAL NO.<br>09/898,728 |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |  |  |  | APPLICANT<br>RAKIB          |  |                          |  |
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER              | DATE                      | NAME             | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROP. |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                     | A | 6,188,871                    | Feb. 13, 2001             | Kitamura, et al. | 455   | 6.1          | Dec. 18, 1996             |
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|                     | D | Pub No.<br>US2001/0018772 A1 | Pub Date<br>Aug. 30, 2001 | Shibata, et al.  | 725   | 93           | Dec. 20, 2000             |
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|                     | G | Pub No.<br>US2002/0059637 A1 | Pub Date<br>May 16, 2002  | Rakib            | 725   | 119          | Jul. 3, 2001              |
|                     | H |                              |                           |                  |       |              |                           |
|                     | I |                              |                           |                  |       |              |                           |
|                     | J |                              |                           |                  |       |              |                           |

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| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUB. DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|-----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|                     |   |                 |           |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
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|                     | L |                 |           |         |       |          |             |    |
|                     | M |                 |           |         |       |          |             |    |
|                     | N |                 |           |         |       |          |             |    |
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|                     | P |                 |           |         |       |          |             |    |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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